

Amendments To The Claims:

Claims 1-16 and 20-39 (cancelled).

Claim 17 (original) A method of scheduling, manufacturing, and shipping items via a delivery network, comprising:

assembling a set of parts needed to make a predetermined number of items in a predetermined order;

providing a delivery network comprising a plurality of network facility points, including one or more origin points and mixing center points, and a plurality of termination points;

inserting the items as they are made into the delivery network;

monitoring activity at the network facility points;

projecting relative congestion along a plurality of routes through the delivery network based on the monitored activity in the network and the destinations of the items to be made; and

responsive to the projected relative congestion in the delivery network, altering one or both of the assembled set of parts and the predetermined order of making the items, so as to cause the items to enter the delivery network in an order calculated to improve efficiency of delivery.

Claim 18 (original) The method of Claim 17, wherein altering one or both of the assembled set of parts and the predetermined order of making the items includes ordering production from the assembled set of parts of items going to the same termination point in sequential order.

Claim 19 (original) A method of scheduling, manufacturing, and shipping items via a delivery network, comprising:

providing a delivery network comprising a plurality of network facility points, including one or more origin points and mixing center points, and a plurality of termination points;

assembling a set of parts needed to make a predetermined number of items;

ordering production from the assembled set of parts so as to manufacture items going to the same termination point in sequential order; and

inserting the items as they are made into the delivery network.